





Intro: Series on suffering: Jesus told us to expect it but also that He's overcome it (Jn.16:33)...

A Christian Worldview on Suffering

- Genesis 1-3 and understanding so many of the foundational aspects of human life...
- Gen.1 and the goodness of all of creation...
- Gen.2 and the blessing of Eden ("Pleasure"). *All this *goodness* orbited around obedience to a *Good God* (Gen.2:16-17):

1) A_

-God is God and we are not...do we trust Him or try calling the shots???

2) A_

-Real creatures that have real choices with real consequences (free will).

Read: Genesis 3

v.1-5—Tactic of serpent is to

question/contradict what God said...

v.6—Appetites gone awry...

v.7—Manmade solutions don't last...

v.8-9—God doesn't give up! He starts the dialogue...

v.10-13—Excusing and blame shifting...

v.14-19—Series of consequences for sin...

*Where does suffering come from? <u>Not created</u> by God but <u>a consequence</u> of human sin...

Sources of Human Suffering

1) P	Sin
2) O	Sin
3) W	Sin

Biblical Prescription for Doctoring Suffering

1) Personal Sin needs

- 1John 1:9, James 5:16
- 2) Others Sin needs
 - Matthew 18:15-17
- 3) World Broke by Sin needs
 - Romans 8:18ff.



(Please take time to ponder and pencil in to prep for this week's small group session.) Read: 1 Thessalonians 2 *From this passage, what do you notice about how Christians are to live?

*What spoke to you this past Sunday (ie. what made you laugh, learn, look deeper at life etc.)?

*This week was a sermon on origins. Let's talk about your personal origins. What's your family history? Where do you come from? What's an interesting family story passed down? etc.

*Where have you most recently observed suffering? Of the 3 categories presented Sunday, is this suffering tied in any way to personal, other, or a world broken by sin? In what way?

*Examining Eden (Gen.2-3): In what ways do you see the events of Eden still played out in life today? How were you designed? What are human longings? Effects noticed of the rebellion? etc.